



# MERE LYS newsletter

Nora Unitarian Universalist Church

June 2010

## VIEW FROM THE HILL



Dads and Grads? Brides and Grooms? Flag Day?

What does June signal for you?

A colleague often quotes Ralph Waldo Emerson these early days of summer:

*In this refulgent summer, it has been a luxury to draw the breath of life. The grass grows, the buds burst, the meadow is spotted with fire and gold in the tint of flowers. The air is full of birds, and sweet with the breath of the pine, the balm-of-Gilead, and the new hay. Night brings no gloom to the heart with its welcome shade. Through the transparent darkness the stars pour their almost spiritual rays.*

My own thoughts tend toward Harper Lee this time of year, and these words from *To Kill a Mockingbird*:

*Summer was on the way; Jem and I awaited it with impatience. Summer was our best season: it was sleeping on the back screened porch in cots, or trying to sleep in the tree house; summer was everything good to eat; it was a thousand colors in a parched landscape; but most of all, summer was Dill.*

Summer may or may not be your best season. And most of you probably don't try to sleep in a tree house anymore—though you may find yourselves sleeping some place other than your own bed for a night or during these next weeks, as vacations or guests or summer heat disrupt your ordinary routine.

Wherever you sleep, there is no denying that sum-

mer is a special season (aren't they all in their ways?). It does indeed bring an abundance of everything good to eat—whether for you that means brats on the grill or fresh sweet corn or home-grown tomatoes or the call of the ice cream truck. Summer's colors, from the deep and various green of the foliage to the rainbow of the garden to the clear blue of lakes and streams, delight the eye and the heart.

And Dill—well, maybe a small boy from Meridian, Mississippi doesn't arrive to spend each summer next door to you. But summer does tend to bring us people we haven't seen in awhile—friends and family we visit or who visit us, and neighbors who are suddenly spending time in the yard or on the porch or stoop now that the weather's tempting. It's time to catch up, renew old acquaintance, gossip, share a cold drink, play a game of catch.

Whatever your particular joy in this season now unfolding—cherries or watermelon, bestseller or blockbuster, lemonade or ice tea, beach or mountains, hot dogs or veggie burgers, golf or Frisbee, staying home or venturing far, far away—may you have the time and the leisure and the state of heart and mind to savor it.

I'll be in Minneapolis from June 21 - 27, attending Ministry Days and General Assembly, then back to Nora to join you all and several former ministers for our reunion on the 28th. July is my vacation time; congregation president Scott Schmiesing will know how to reach me in case of an emergency. I'll be back at work in August, eager for the start of our second year together.

In the meantime, enjoy.

-Lisa

## SECOND SUNDAY OFFERING

Loose change on the 2nd Sunday of each month will go to "Food For All"

## ANNUAL REPORTS

If you haven't turned your report in to Cindy, do it ASAP.

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Nora UU Church will be held after church on Sunday, June 13. In addition to any business that members wish to address, the congregation will be asked to adopt the budget for the 2010-2011 church year. (Please note that while both friends and members of Nora church are encouraged to attend, voting is reserved for members)

## LUNCH BUNCH



The Lunch Bunch will kick off its summer season by trekking to Springfield for a visit to Tommy's on Main Street on Thursday, June 17, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun.

## BRAVOS FROM THE BOARD

Thanks from the Board goes to all the hardworking people on Clean Up Sunday. Thanks also to Karen Farrell for hosting the Mother's Day Tea and to everyone who contributed goodies.

## SHALOM HILL FARM TOUR To see Wind turbine

Pastor Mark is willing to host those who would like to see a Jacobs 31-20 Wind Turbine in operation. This is the same generator that Nora Church is thinking of purchasing.

We can car pool after potluck on Sunday June 6 to near Windom, MN.

Contact Darrell 359-7494 if you're interested.

## FURTHER STEPS TAKEN FOR WIND TURBINE AT MT. PISQUA

Nora Church continues to take steps that may result in construction of a wind turbine to produce electricity for the church. Nora's request for a variance from Brown County's Zoning Board was approved May 11. An easement agreement with our neighbors was very helpful in securing the variance. At a congregational meeting May 2 the congregation approved three items:

- formation of a corporation named Prairie Beacon;
- Prairie Beacon's application for a USDA Renewable Energies Small Wind grant;
- use of church funds as collateral to facilitate a line of credit for the corporation.

No irreversible action will be taken until word is received on the success of the grant application. (This could take up to 3 months). If the application is approved and if the project is started before the end of the year we would then be eligible for a 30% rebate for energy savings. Together the USDA grant and the rebate would reduce the cost of the project by 46%.

The congregation may be asked to vote to empower the Renewable Energy Committee to go ahead with the project, pending approval of the grant application, at the Annual Meeting following the service on June 13. Details regarding the bid Nora has received for a Jacobs 31-20 20kw generator with a 120 ft tower will be available before and at the Annual Meeting.

Nora Church has long considered itself a Beacon (of liberal religion) on the Prairie thus the name Prairie Beacon seems fitting for our producing some our own electricity and being less reliant on fossil fuels. In addition to providing our own electricity we would be able to do reverse metering with the 20 kw generator and sell power to our provider Alliant Energy at the rate we are charged.

This is a big step for the congregation and the committee appreciates the support it has received.





Please join us in the celebration of  
**Warren and Kristine Paulson's**  
 50th wedding anniversary (Golden)  
 Saturday, June 5th, 2010, 3:00 p.m. thru 7:00 p.m.  
 Hanska City Park.

Lunch and beverages will be served.  
 There will be music from 4:00 p.m. thru 7:00 p.m.  
 No gifts please, your presence is their gift!

*Proudly hosted by  
 their children and grandchildren.*



Open House Bridal Shower honoring  
**Becky Kruger & Daniel Blomquist Amborn**  
 (son of Dan and Patsy Amborn)  
 (grandson of Algot and Bonita Blomquist)

Nora Church Fellowship Hall  
 rural Hanska  
 Saturday, June 5, 2010,  
 9:30 a.m. thru 11:30 a.m.

Men, women and children are invited.  
 Food and beverages will be served.  
 Registered at Herbergers and Target .

**AFTER-GLOW GATHERING**

**SERVICE & POTLUCK**

*At*

**NORA CHURCH**

*Monday, June 28, 2010*

*The Minneapolis proximity of this year's General Assembly affords us a wonderful opportunity for a get-together of former ministers, families, friends, associates, and members at Nora Church on the day following the Assembly.*

*A Service with special music will be held at 5:30 p.m. Supper will follow at 6:30. It's a potluck, so please make a generous dish.*

*There will be time for renewing friendships and making new ones, as well as catching up on events since we shared time together at Nora Church.*



# HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



Any man can be a Father,  
but it takes a special person  
to be called Dad.

The idea for creating a day for children to honor their fathers began in Spokane, Washington. A woman by the name of Sonora Smart Dodd thought of the idea for Father's Day while listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909.

Having been raised by her father, William Jackson Smart, after her mother died, Sonora wanted her father to know how special he was to her. It was her father that made all the parental sacrifices and was, in the eyes of his daughter, a courageous, selfless, and loving man. Sonora's father was born in June, so she chose to hold the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane, Washington on the 19th of June, 1910.

In 1926, a National Father's Day Committee was formed in New York City. Father's Day was recognized by a Joint Resolution of Congress in 1956. In 1972, President Richard Nixon established a permanent national observance of Father's Day to be held on the third Sunday of June. So Father's Day was born in memory and gratitude by a daughter who thought that her father and all good fathers should be honored with a special day just like we honor our mothers on Mother's Day.

## DADDY

*If all these Kisses aren't enough,  
There's two hands to help with garden stuff.  
If all these hugs don't work their charm,  
There's two arms to help keep you warm.  
If this gift doesn't show how much we care,  
We have REAL hugs & kisses to share!*

### NEWS FROM KRISZTINA

Hi everybody!  
I am a little bit sad. I am after the surgery and I thought that everything will be ok, and I will go on... I can work again more and more and more. But unfortunately I have go to the hospital again, because the doctors observed that I have a special muscular atrophy... So I have to make special exercises full of pains... But I try to be hard and hard and hard... But I became a little bit impatient... hospitals, doctors again, again, again...  
Best wishes, K

## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST HUMOR

How many UUs does it take to change a light bulb?  
An undetermined number. We choose not to make a statement either in favor of, or against, the need for a light bulb. However, if on your own journey you have found that light bulbs work for you, that's fine. You are invited to form a committee, write a poem or compose a modern dance about your bulb for next Sunday's service, during which we will explore a number of light bulb traditions, including incandescent, fluorescent, three-way, long-life, and tinted, all of which are equally valid paths to luminescence.  
-- From "Solitaire, Poker and Seeing God" by Roger Peltier, 3/14/04, and as quoted from personal correspondence with Joan Goodwin.

+ + + + +

As we welcome our newest members and visitors, it is only fair to let them know what we Unitarian Universalists are like and what we expect.

- We are friendly. If you are not friendly, out you go!
  - We are genuine people. Even our phonies are real phonies.
  - We are always sincere even if we have to fake it.
  - We aren't sure how ambivalent we should be.
  - We believe in tolerance and cannot stand intolerant people.
  - We are optimists. Anyone who doesn't look on the bright side depresses us.
  - We are more non-competitive than other groups.
  - We believe in equality; everyone is as good as the next person and a whole lot better.
  - Every Unitarian is a feminist, so he has to watch his language.
  - The organization is run democratically because the president insists on it.
  - We have our critics, but they are paranoid
  - We are prompt about being late to meetings.
  - Dogmatism is absolutely forbidden.
- Freedom of belief is rigidly enforced.  
And to this wonderful place we joyfully welcome you.

## To Keep In Touch

Know of someone who needs special mention?  
please let us know.

Caring Committee members:

Georgine Tepley (chair)

359-3060 (weekdays after 5 pm)

Shirley Olson - 354-1866 ~ Carol Chambard - 354-2242

# NORA CHURCH CALENDAR

## JUNE 2010

Parsonage: 507-439-6240  
Lisa's Cell: 507-766-5682



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service Potluck dinner Shalom Hill visit	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service Annual Meeting	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 10:00 Coffee Time 10:30 Service	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 No service	28	29	30	<div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;">                     Services will resume in August as well as the newsletter. Come back in August ready to "step out of your comfort zone" and maybe try something new.                 </div>		



**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**  
ARE DUE BY THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH.

**WEEKLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
ARE DUE BY THURSDAY NOON

cindymo@sleepyeyetel.net

please be sure to include "NORA"

in the subject line

(507) 439-6380

20894 County Road 6, Hanska, MN 56041  
Thanks for your help in getting articles to me.  
Cindy Mosenden, Office Administrator

MUSICIAN	SERVERS	GREETERS - USHERS
6	POTLUCK	
Mimi Kamleiter	Diane Becken & Ann Nelson	John & Julie Schmitt
13 Muffy Rathman	Kevin & Shannon Weiss	Christopher Olson
20 Sally Hanson	Pat & Laurie Kunerth	Mimi Kamleiter



### PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastor Lisa will have Mondays off.  
Friday will be sermon writing day.  
She can be reached on her cell when not in the office



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<http://www.norauuchurch.org>

# June 2010

## Nora Church Sunday Services JUNE 2009

**Social Hour 10:00 AM    Worship Service 10:30 AM**

**June 6** "Third Thing" - this morning's service will include our annual Flower Ceremony. Please bring a cut flower to contribute to our community bouquet.

**June 13** "Taking Care of Business"

**June 20** "Beyond Soap-on-a-rope"

**Monday, June 28** "The Ministers Came" (with apologies to Cynthia Rylant)



Congrats  
to our  
2010  
Grads!